APR 15 1954

Box 491
Fairbanks, Alaska
April 12, 1954

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska
Board of Natl. Missions of the
Presbyterian Church USA
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman

I have just finished a letter to Miss Koerner regarding the payment for the Lot 14, Tract B, Survey 3292 at Big Delta which we purchased through the land sale in March. When we finally located the Mr.Hearold who owned the other lot(had the option on the lot)we found that he lived on College Road, Fairbanks. However, he and a friend had made definite plans to use the lot for rentals. They are planning to start the work this spring. Under these circumstances I went ahead and made final payment for purchase of the lot mentioned above. Since that time I have had a couple of leads which have also led up a blind alley.

However, last Sunday Mr. Markus (you will remember him as the owner of trailer court who took us over and showed us the lot we were wishing to get)had not given up the idea of finding us a location that we would like; so when I went to call for the children for Sunday school, he told me he had another lead. The lot right next to the one which we failed to get is a corner lot; that is, it faces the highway and is also on the proposed road meeting the highway at right angles. You can see what an ideal location this would be. However, he did not know the man's name but knew the man who had built a cabin, small frame house, which is now on the lot. I went to see this man but could not contact him. So today I went to the land office and was able to get the man's name. He is Mr. Jack Stege, resident engineer at Ladd Field. I called him only to find that he is now down at Tok so I put a call through to him and have just finished what I hope was a promising conversation. He does want to sell his lot. As yet he does not have full title to it which is being held up only pending receipt of his final papers from the land office. According to the land office everything is clear and he sould have these papers any time. There remains just one problem and that will be the price he will ask. The cabin itself is a well-built structure in which he has put about $1,000. This could be sold and moved off the property if we did not want it. He had built the cabin with the intentions of living in it. The cabin is a one-room structure 12' x 18'. Since Mr. Stege is presently in Tok I suggested he might contact Ed Diehl or the Evans at Tok Lodge if he cared to know more about us and our work at Big Delta.

You remember in our converstion with Mr. Markus he mentioned that when he bought his property he had paid $1,800. for it. This, too, included a small cabin but not one so well constructed as the one on the lot in the above paragraph. Land values have gone up since he made his purchase and as I have said, this is a corner lot which is most desirable. The lot next to the Markus' upon which there is a nice cabin recently sold

for $2,000. Under the circumstances and from what I have been able to learn from the folks in Big Delta, it would not be unreasonable for Mr. Stege to ask $3,000. if not more for the lot in mind. It was hoped he might ask around $2,500. In my conversation with him on the phone just now he was not ready to state a price as he wanted to inquire as to the values of land. He says he will give me a definite answer by Friday of this week. I feel that if it is at all possible for us to swing this deal we should do so. Although the price is far beyond what we had intended to pay I feel the access to power and to water are worth the extra money. We would have access to sufficient power to run our plant as well as access to water. The obtaining of the water would not be as convenient as having our own well but it would be possible to carry on our program not having to worry about a well until some future date. At a minimum the cost alone of the well and power plant to efficiently carry on a program such as we have outlined would run close to $3,000.

All this is still very indefinite but I wanted you to know what was in the wind so that you would be alerted in case I needed to send any wires to you upon receiving favorable word from Mr. Stege. I will probably have to act quickly in order to rescue our $400. paid for Lot 14.

Our love and prayers are with you and your family and to all our friends at 156 for a joyous andblessed Easter Season.

Sincerely

Ralph

Ralph H. Weeks, Servicemen's Pastor
Fairbanks-Big Delta Area

BIG DELTA
PURCHASE.

APR 15 1954

Box 491
Fairbanks, Alaska
April 12, 1954

Miss Frieda Koerner
Dept. of Work in Alaska
Board of Natl. Missions of the
Presbyterian Church USA
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Miss Koerner

In answer to your letter of March 16 I realize you should have had a definite answer before this. However, the plans for the purchasing of a lot at Big Delta have changed so frequently in the past month it has been hard to know just exactly what to write. This much is certain though. We have paid $400. for Lot 14, Tract B, Purvey 3292 at Big Delta. This $400. was sent to me in the form of two checks, each for $200. The check to which you refer in your letter is the second of these two checks. I did not receive any Project Accounting Form for the first $200. I am enclosing the forms which I did receive for the second $200. attached

At present it seems best for me to retain the receipts for the full $400. paid to the land office for the Lot 14 mentioned above. The reason for this is that there still is a possible change to be made in the lots. If so I would need to have these receipts on hand.

There seems to be a misuse of terms regarding the area in question. As far as I know there is no such place as Triangle City. It is all just Big Delta. I think perhaps this mistake arises from the fact that the area at the junction of the two highways is referred to as the Triangle Area..

Sincerely yours

Ralph H. Weeks

Ralph H. Weeks, Servicemen's Pastor
Fairbanks-Big Delta Area

Enc.

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Note: Please return two completed copies to the New York Alaska office. Thank you.

Project Accounting Form

Departments of Sunday School Missions and Alaska

APR 15 1954

Project: Big Delta Property Purchase (by The Rev. Ralph H. Weeks) Date: 3/16/54

Receipts:

Date	Source	Amount
3/11/54	Ck.#A87355-AlaskaRaven Fund SOB-IFC CH/B	$200.-
2/1/54	Ck #A84892	200.
		400
	Total Receipts:	$200.-

Expenditures: (as per receipted bills attached)--See letter attached re. receipts.**

**Bureau of Land Management Receipt No. 73793

Date	Cash or Check	Purpose	Amount
3-19-54	Ck.	Final payment for Lot 14, Tract B, Survey #3292 at Big Delta, Alaska	$200.00

Total Expenditures: $200.00

Balance on hand as of: ----

Disposition of balance: ----

Date of completion of project: 3-19-54 Report Submitted by: Ralph H. Weeks

Official capacity: Servicemen's Pastor, Fairbanks-Big Delta Area

JEJ:FK 4-1947
6-1950 (Rev.)

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Note: Please return two completed copies to the New York Alaska office. Thank you.

Project Accounting Form

Departments of Sunday School Missions and Alaska

APR 15 1954

Project: Big Delta Property Purchase (by The Rev. Ralph H. Weeks) Date: 3/16/54

Receipts:

Date	Source	Amount
3/11/54	Ck.#A87355-AlaskaRaven Fund SOB-IFC CH/B	$200.-
3/15/54	Ck #84892 - - - - - -	200.-
	Total Receipts:	~~$200.-~~ 400.-

Expenditures: (as per receipted bills attached)--See letter attached re. receipts.**

**Bureau of Land Management Receipt No. 73793

Date	Cash or Check	Purpose	Amount
3-19-54	Ck.	Final payment for Lot 14, Tract B, Survey #3292 at Big Delta, Alaska	$200.00

Total Expenditures: $200.00

Balance on hand as of: ----

Disposition of balance: ----

Date of completion of project: 3-19-54 Report Submitted by: Ralph H. Weeks

Official capacity: Servicemen's Pastor, Fairbanks-Big Delta Area

JEJ:FK 4-1947
6-1950 (Rev.)

Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Note: Please return two completed copies to the New York Alaska office. Thank you.

APR 15 1954

Project Accounting Form

Departments of Sunday School Missions and Alaska

Project: Big Delta Property Purchase (by The Rev. Ralph H. Weeks) Date: 3/16/54

Receipts:

Date	Source	Amount
3/11/54	Ck.#A87355-AlaskaRaven Fund SOB-IFC CH/B	$200.-
3/1/54	Ck.#84892 - " " " "	200
		~~200.-~~ 400

Total Receipts:

Expenditures: (as per receipted bills attached)--See letter attached re. receipts.**

**Bureau of Land Management Receipt No. 73793

Date	Cash or Check	Purpose	Amount
3-19-54	Ck.	Final payment for Lot 14, Tract B, Survey #3292 at Big Delta, Alaska	$200.00

Total Expenditures: $200.00

Balance on hand as of: ----

Disposition of balance: ----

Ralph H. Weeks

Date of completion of project: 3-19-54 Report Submitted by: Ralph H. Weeks

Official capacity: Servicemen's Pastor, Fairbanks-Big Delta Area

JEJ:FK 4-1947
6-1950 (Rev.)

Box 491
Fairbanks, Alaska
April 12, 1954

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska
Board of Natl. Missions of the
Presbyterian Church USA
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman

I have just finished a letter to Miss Koerner regarding the payment for the Lot 14, Tract B, Survey 3292 at Big Delta which we purchased through the land sale in March. When we finally located the Mr.Hearold who owned the other lot(had the option on the lot)we found that he lived on College Road, Fairbanks. However, he and a friend had made definite plans to use the lot for rentals. They are planning to start the work this spring. Under these circumstances I went ahead and made final payment for purchase of the lot mentioned above. Since that time I have had a couple of leads which have also led up a blind alley.

However, last Sunday Mr. Markus (you will remember him as the owner of trailer court who took us over and showed us the lot we were wishing to get)had not given up the idea of finding us a location that we would like; so when I went to call for the children for Sunday school, he told me he had another lead. The lot right next to the one which we failed to get is a corner lot; that is, it faces the highway and is also on the proposed road meeting the highway at right angles. You can see what an ideal location this would be. However, he did not know the man's name but knew the man who had built a cabin, small frame house, which is now on the lot. I went to see this man but could not contact him. So today I went to the land office and was able to get the man's name. He is Mr. Jack Stege, resident engineer at Ladd Field. I called him only to find that he is now down at Tok so I put a call through to him and have just finished what I hope was a promising conversation. He does want to sell his lot. As yet he does not have full title to it which is being held up only pending receipt of his final papers from the land office. According to the land office everything is clear and he sould have these papers any time. There remains just one problem and that will be the price he will ask. The cabin itself is a well-built structure in which he has put about $1,000. This could be sold and moved off the property if we did not want it. He had built the cabin with the intentions of living in it. The cabin is a one-room structure 12' x 18'. Since Mr. Stege is presently in Tok I suggested he might contact Ed Diehl or the Evans at Tok Lodge if he cared to know more about us and our work at Big Delta.

You remember in our converstion with Mr. Markus he mentioned that when he bought his property he had paid $1,800. for it. This, too, included a small cabin but not one so well constructed as the one on the lot in the above paragraph. Land values have gone up since he made his purchase and as I have said, this is a corner lot which is most desirable. The lot next to the Markus' upon which there is a nice cabin recently sold

APR 15 1954

for $2,000. Under the circumstances and from what I have been able to learn from the folks in Big Delta, it would not be unreasonable for Mr. Stege to ask $3,000. if not more for the lot in mind. It was hoped he might ask around $2,500. In my conversation with him on the phone just now he was not ready to state a price as he wanted to inquire as to the values of land. He says he will give me a definite answer by Friday of this week. I feel that if it is at all possible for us to swing this deal we should do so. Although the price is far beyond what we had intended to pay I feel the access to power and to water are worth the extra money. We would have access to suffieient power to run our plant as well as access to water. The obtaining of the water would not be as convenient as having our own well but it would be possible to carry on our program not having to worry about a well until some future date. At a minimum the cost alone of the well and power plant to efficiently carry on a program such as we have outlined would run close to $3,000.

All this is still very indefinite but I wanted you to know what was in the wind so that you would be alerted in case I needed to send any wires to you upon receiving favorable word from Mr. Stege. I will probably have to act quickly in order to rescue our $400. paid for Lot 14.

Our love and prayers are with you and your family and to all our friends at 156 for a joyous andblessed Easter Season.

Sincerely

Ralph H. Weeks, Servicemen's Pastor
Fairbanks-Big Delta Area

JUN 11 1954

Box 491
Fairbanks, Alaska
June 8, 1954

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska
Board of Natl. Missions
Presbyterian Church USA
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman

We returned to Fairbanks at midnight last night after a busy weekend in Big Delta. Your letter of June 4 was in our mail. This letter may be lengthy and rather involved; but what needs to be said, needs to be said. What we have done we have done with the feeling that your knowledge of the peculiarity of situations in Alaska would justify our actions. You know that here in Alaska if you are going to do something, you must do it when and how you can and be ready to take advantage of every opportunity as it comes along, especially if you are trying to meet a limited budget. (Note, I said trying!) Time does not permit one to sit by and wait for certain legal documents to be completed and then casually go out and accomplish whatever construction job needs to be done. Last year's experience in the building of the addition to the present chapel proved this point. As the saying goes "Beggars cannot be choosers" and since the success of our building depends so much on volunteer labor and donations we have to be on the spot ready and willing to act when these things are offered. Perhaps by now you have guessed what I am trying to tell you. That is, that the building is well under way on the Stege land.

Three weeks ago Sgt. Heath phoned me from Big Delta to inform me that land was being cleared in the area of "our" lot. The equipment was there. Most of the folks who are building in this area try to get their lots cleared while the equipment is in the immediate vicinity. You must pay rental on the equipment from the time it leaves the previous job until yours is completed. If one were to have this done as a separate job an extra $50-60 would be involved in getting the "cat" to your location. Having faith in Mr. Stege's promise both written and oral that the land was ours and we could do as wechose with it, and with the oral sanction of the local land office who told us it was only a very short time before Mr. Stege's final papers would be through and that as far as we were concerned what we were doing was legal, we went ahead and had the land cleared.

I have contacted Mr. C. E. Finnel, local builder, whom you mentioned in a recent letter as having been recommended by Bert. At first he thought he would be unable to help us out; but when I explained to him he would not need to be on the job all the time, he agreed to supervise the construction of the chapel and hospitality center.

I am enclosing a copy of a contract which he drew up. Would you please advise me if this is acceptable in order to be free of our withholding tax for his services.(I am also enclosing Mr. Philleo's bill for the plans.) The day following the clearing Mr. Finnell and I went to Big

Delta where Mr. Finnell finished supervising the clearing and the digging of the partial basement and foundation excavation. Mr. Finnell knew the father of the young man who was running the "cat". We had quite a talk together and the young man became quite interested in what we were trying to accomplish. As a result he did not charge us anything for transportation of the equipment and after working thirteen hours (his rate is $17 per hour) he charged us only $150 for ten hours.

JUN 11 1954

In regards to the logs and lumber for the building you can well appreciate the fact that the quantity needed would be large. We have been dealing with Dean Cummings whose sawmill is located some 36 miles south of Tok. He has given us by far the fairest price on all lumber, has been faithful in his delivery, is dependable and is interested in the church work here in Alaska. Such an order as we would need could not be picked up over night or in a matter of days. In order to have logs in time when we would need them I put the order in upon receipt of your letter that money was available and previous to the receipt of letters raising the question regarding title of the land. As a result Dean has been able to fill our order of all required material even working in the delivery on business trips to Fairbanks. His price is extremely low and it was nice to be able to work in with his plans on this matter. This would not have been possible on a rush order if we had waited.

While working with Mr. Finnell on the job we found that the designated concrete block foundation would not be practical for two reasons. First, it would require a thousand blocks at a minimum. These blocks would have to be transported from Fairbanks, which would entail a tremendous cost. Second, the heaving of the ground during the various seasons of freezing and thawing could cause such a foundation to crack. We decided it would be much more practical to set the building on cement piers. Even if we had had to haul the cement from Fairbanks, this would be a tremendous saving over cement blocks. However, Mr. Finnell has a friend who is now working out on the new Post at Big Delta and he thought through them we might make some contact with the construction company working there. His friend directed us to a Mr. Jack Todd, supervisor of all the cement work on the new job. It turned out that I had already met Mr. Todd, whose partner was now sending his son to our Sunday school. This was a new contact I had made only three weeks previously while visiting in one of the fast-growing trailer courts. These men were delighted to help. Mr. Finnell and I made the forms and the company poured them, giving us the needed bolts for each block. They made us 22 piers, two hundred pounds each. With the help of some of the servicemen and friends in Big Delta who had pickup trucks we hauled in the piers and set them.

Another change which we have made which I am sure you will be as happy with as I am is the basement. The original plan called for just a small basement big enough for storage and the furnace. However, the "cat" used to dig the basement had a large 10-foot blade. When the basement excavation was completed it was some 13 feet wide. I asked Mr. Finnell that since we had all this space excavated, couldn't we use all of it for the basement. The result is that we will now have a room 12'x32'. This we will finish off making possible another Sunday school room which we need so much. It will be large enough, too, to accommodate a ping-pong table at other times. Together Louise and I spent Monday laying the flooring of this new room. It is now ready for the studding. I expect to go down a couple of days this week for work on the building as well as more calling.

All through this work Louise and I have depended on prayer and God's guidance. We know the challenge is there and the work must be done. We feel what we have done is right. We only wish the building was completed now for we could use every bit of space for a fast-growing Sunday school and church program. There are many families moving in. Most of them of course are seeking work on the new post, some on the pipeline, some are permanent settlers, but many of them are the serviceman and his family.

Just this past week we have had an unhappy experience which shows us what might have happened if we had not gone ahead with this project as we have. As near as I can tell other than the business lots which were up at the auction, Jack Stege's land is the only desirable or even available lot in this immediate area. In the lot adjoining ours to the rear is a trailer court, owned by a young cowboy and his wife. We have made friends with them and they are working into our church program. One of the recent arrivals on their lot is a man and his wife by the name of Mr. and Mrs. James, two months in Alaska from Texas. They had not been in the lot over night before Mrs. James was in talking the cowboy's young wife telling her that the United Pentecostal Church was the only church and that she and anyone else going to our chapel were wasting their time. She has been talking constantly to Betty along this line. Betty, thank goodness, does not agree with Mrs. James and has told us about it. Under the circumstances I went down to meet the woman and tried to be as friendly as possible. During our conversation she informed me that she and her husband, who now has a job at the new Post, are seeking to buy land in this vicinity and start a church. While Mr. James is working Mrs. James has nothing to do all day long but sit in a tiny trailer and make trouble.

This brings me to another point over which I am very much concerned. As I mentioned before, due to the influx of workers and families, the work during the summer months is going to be a tremendous one, not that it could not have been a full-time job ministering to the servicemen and residents who were there more or less permanently. With this is the problem of the new building, which should have constant care and supervision. We are planning a daily vacation Bible school for two weeks in July. We have the workers' team coming. We are planning a junior conference camp for this area the last week in July. With all of this I am obligated to attend the King's Lake conference which falls this year on June 13-27. In order to stay the full two weeks at this camp I would have to miss three Sundays at Big Delta as well as be away from my work sixteen days here in Fairbanks and at Big Delta. You can see what an inopportune time the conference falls this year as far as my work is concerned. Since I am dean of the high school conference which meets the first week and since you asked all of us under the Board of National Missions to help out I am doing what I can. However, I do not feel I can go off for the two weeks and leave the brunt of the responsibility of my work on Louise. Rev. Alfsen has had to refuse to go because this falls right at the very beginning of their big drive for their new church. I am planning to go down for the first week only. This will mean missing two Sundays as it is. Louise, with one of our Helmsmen's couples here in Fairbanks, will take over the first Sunday. We are in hopes that, with the arrival of the young people from the States, with their help Louise will supervise the second Sunday also. I feel very sincerely that under the circumstances what I am doing is right and I hope this will meet with your approval.

Needless to say, we are looking forward to working with these young people. I only wish you could find two more strong young men to help with the building program. I am attending a meeting with Vic and Tom at 2:30 this afternoon so will hold this letter until after that time.

It is now June 9 and we have had our conference concerning the work team's schedule and here are the results: Louise will meet the boy and girl arriving by plane from Seattle June 15 or 16. She will take them to Big Delta June 17 where they will help her with the work and plan for the church service and Sunday school June 20. The other four will report directly to College where a work schedule is being set up for them. Louise and the two with her will return to Fairbanks June 20 after services and all six of the young people will spend the following week at College. Tom has arranged for their supervision and living accommodations. It might possibly work out that I may take the two boys back to Big Delta with me. Right now is the time we need all the man help we can get. One June 28 we will take all six of the young folks to Big Delta. There will be plenty of construction work. They will also help with the Sunday church work and Sunday school. We will then make general preparations for our DVBS to be held July 12-24. The following week part of them will help at our junior camp at Harding Lake and part will remain with Louise at Big Delta. Tom has suggested that Rev. Stokes will probably like to have them for at least two weeks during the month of August for his DVBS at College. I will keep them busy the rest of the time at Big Delta. As soon as Bert returns we can make arrangments for the help he will need on the railroad. Naturally all this is tentative and can be changed to suit our needs as they may arise.

We are in hopes of being able to take care of part of the costs for meals, etc. for these young people while they are working with us at Big Delta. However, I am sure we will need some help from you. I am having a Session meeting Friday night at Big Delta to plan as best we can on this matter. I am not quite sure how much of my present expense allowance I can use for such purposes. Will you please advise me on this. So far expenses have used up the allowance; but there may be the possibility of having an excess during the summer months.

We do wish that your trip to Alaska was going to include Fairbanks and Big Delta. It would be grand to see you and be able to talk with you. Give our very best to all our friends. God bless you in your work.

Sincerely

Ralph

Ralph M. Weeks

Box 491
Fairbanks, Alaska
June 9, 1954

Dr. J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman

I have just finished a phone conversation with the local land office concerning the final papers of the Stege land in Big Delta. The land inspector from Anchorage had just come into the office this morning. Who should he turn out to be but a Mr. Gustafson who is an elder in the Woodland Park Church. Naturally he was very much interested in our project and we made a date to get this done Friday at Big Delta. He felt that we could rush matters and get a final certificate which he said is accepted in most all business matters on a par with a patent. The patent itself takes from two to three months to be completed. You can see from this what would have happened to our building program if we had to wait for a patent. I will send you further information on this after my meeting with Mr. Gustafson Friday at Big Delta.

Sincerely

Ralph

Ralph H. Weeks
Servicemen's Pastor

M. Jackman

P.O.Box 1511

COPY

JUL 28 1954

MAURICE T. JOHNSON
Attorney at Law
201 Lathrop Building
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

July 24, 1954

re: Big Delta, Al

Mr. Lucien H. Tribus
Legal Counsel
Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church
156 Fifth Ave.
New York 10, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Tribus:

I have just received notice from the Bureau of Land Management that the final certificate has been issued in the matter of Fairbanks serial number 09769, Jack E. Stege applicant, for a small tract at Big Delta, Alaska. This is tantamount to an issuance of a patent and the patent should be forthcoming in due course within a reasonable time.

You may recall that this is the land which is involved in the Big Delta chapel of which Ralph H. Weeks is pastor. They are very anxious to go ahead with the building program and in fact have already done quite a bit of work on their own down there, and certainly it is a worthwhile purchase. I believe that the Board could issue the commitment without any difficulty. If I can be of any further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

s/ MAURICE T. JOHNSON
Attorney at Law

Mr. Tribus
Mr. Jackman
Big Delta, Alaska

July 30, 1954

We have received a copy of the letter from Maurice T. Johnson, attorney in Fairbanks, to you stating that the Bureau of Land Management has notified him that the final certificate has been issued to Jack D. Stege for the small tract of land at Big Delta, Alaska which we are purchasing from Mr. Stege, and that the patent is now available to be transferred to the Board of National Missions.

In order to facilitate matters involved in this as quickly as possible and make funds available to the Rev. Ralph H. Weeks who is leading a group of six college students and other volunteer workers in the construction of our new Chapel-Hospitality Center on this property, we are asking the Treasury Department for a check for the $2000.- with which to purchase the land and a check for $2700.- from Chaplain's Committee Funds (L12) which money is available for materials for the construction of the building. We would ask you to forward these to Mr. Johnson so that as soon as the patent can be transferred to us he can release the $2000. to Mr. Stege, and release the $2700.- to Ralph H. Weeks with accounting forms to proceed with the construction of the building. We would ask your early attention to this in order to save time at the other end.

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:YK

CC: Dr. Harold M. Baldwin
Mr. A. Rolland Armstrong
The Rev. Ralph H. Weeks

Office of Jurisdiction
Dunn 8/2/54
P.S.C.

Dr. Baldwin
Dr. Jackman
Sanctuary and Hospitality Center at
Big Delta, Alaska

July 30, 1954

8/3/54 - 2700. - du Ag 5868
gives Mr. Tribus to send to Treas. ®

Information has come from Fairbanks, Alaska that the Land Office has in effect issued a patent to Jack E. Stege for a corner lot along the Alaska Highway at Big Delta, Alaska which we desire for the location of our Sanctuary and Hospitality Center for the work of the service-pastor. The way is now open for us to issue the check for the purchase of the land and an advance for the purchase of materials to continue the construction of the building itself.

Because the building is already under way and they are waiting for funds to settle bills and enable them to continue, we are arranging for the check for the purchase to be sent to Mr. Maurice T. Johnson, attorney in Fairbanks, to make full payment for the land and complete the papers in the name of the Board of National Missions as quickly as possible. Also, we would like to send Mr. Johnson a check for materials which he could release to Ralph H. Weeks as soon as the deed is cleared to us. We would ask you to send a voucher to the Treasury Dept. for the $2,700. from the Chaplain's Committee funds which is being held in LI-2 and which is available now for the construction of the building. This check should be made payable to Ralph H. Weeks and we should send along the usual accounting forms with it. Please have this made out as soon as possible and let us have it.

We are asking Mr. Tribus to take up the negotiations with Mr. Johnson advancing the two checks and authorizing him to release them as soon as the land is deeded to the Board of National Missions. There is need of haste on this because construction already has begun, bills have been incurred and Ralph Weeks has six college students there to keep working to get the building as far advanced as possible during the summer weather.

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:bc

DOMESTIC SERVICE

Check the class of service desired; otherwise this message will be sent as a full rate telegram

FULL RATE TELEGRAM	
DAY LETTER	
NIGHT LETTER	X

$
S
E

WESTERN UNION

1206 10-51

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

Check the class of service desired; otherwise the message will be sent at the full rate

FULL RATE	
LETTER TELEGRAM	
SHIP RADIOGRAM	

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
	Big Delta, Alaska		Board of National Missions Presbyterian Church U.S.A.	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

NIGHT LETTR

August 2, 1954

The Rev. Victor I. Alfsen
First Presbyterian Church
Fairbanks, Alaska

Ck A95868-L1 acct bldg for materials → A95881 - Expended Rest. Sds.

$2700.- check payable Weeks and $2000.- checks payable Stage being forwarded today to Maurice T. Johnson by our Legal Counselor Mr. Tribus as soon as deed released to us. for delivery to proper parties./ These funds for building materials and land purchase.

Frieda Koerner

CC Central Service

Neil Munro. re Big Delta. SEP 9 1957

Copy

Delta Junction, Alaska

September 4, 1957

Dr. Harold Baldwin
Secretary, Board of National Missions
Presbyterian Church U.S.A.
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Dr. Baldwin:

On July 4th, I wrote a letter to Mr. Karl Karsch of Presbyterian Life and sent you a copy. In the meantime, I have talked with Dr. Jackman at Sitka with regards to the same subject. Namely, a re-evaluation of the work with Service Personel in the Big Delta Area.

My conclusions are still the same. Ifeel that there is a real need for a church here in Delta. However, the work of the Service Center as such is no longer a practical approach. The bulk of their work here is in the nature of a normal church situation. The service families that do live here do not like to be distinguished as such. But they dc like to participate in the church program.

As I said in my earlier letter, the military has passed a ruling that no one from the rank of corporal down will receive a special subsistance allowance for living off the military post. This will mean that for practically all these men that they will not bring their families to Alaska as it will be too expensive. As for those above the rank of corporal, there will be by this October enough housing on the base to take care of all who want it.

Already the Army has made a $12.00 per month cut in the off-base allowance. This will work or begin to work a hardship on the families living at the Junction. The general policy seems to be for the Army to eliminate all extra payments for their personel for family support. This is consistent with the overall cuts that the Army is making in general. And at the same time they are discharging many men early. And are also dropping ranking enlisted men who lack the proper educational requirements for this modern atomic tactical Army.

Also at this present writing, we have lost several of our key civilian families who are actually the backbone of the work here. These will be replaced in time. But our work with the military personel on the basis that it was set up here no longer seems to be the best program. This is the consensus of opinion of the Session. Though from a practical point of view it would be better for us to remain under your department.

As far as the program has been operating, I have been dissatisfied. For I feel that we have not adequately reached the people we are trying to get.

Copy

////////////////

Delta Junction, Alaska

Page 2: Dr. Harold Baldwin:

I find that this is not just our own failure in improper programing. For the Service Center run by the Army on the base was doing and still is a relatively less effective work. In talking with the director, Miss Elisabeth Spencer, I found out that they attribute part of their lack of appeal to th e men to TV. But worst of all, they feel that the men in the Army for the most part are vegitables. They just seem to lay around their bunks with little or no initiative. And I have found in calling around the Junction that many now have TV sets. And that this actually keeps them from wanting to get out of their homes.

So here you have an evaluation of the work. All this I have shared with Dr. Jackman at Sitka and he advised me to write to you along this thinking. I will wait to hear from you from this point on.

Sincerely yours

Neil

Neil Munro

CC: Dr. J. Earl Jackman

Big Bills

STEGE

December 16, 1977

Mr. Charles Johnson, Attorney at Law
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Charles:

Enclosed is a copy of the letter I received from Mr. Irlbacher. I am sending it to you for your information.

Mr. Irlbacher believes that there are two things which we need, namely, the deed to the property and a marketable certificate that we have a good title to it. Mr. Irlbacher is not very cooperative in this type of thing, and I advised him to withhold any further action until I could have an opportunity of talking to you. If you can investigate this and let us have these two things at your earliest convenience. Incidentally, if there is a bill attached to it, that should come out of the land exchange appropriation.

Best personal regards to you.

Cordially yours,

J. Carl Jackson

JCJ:rh
cc: Lucian Irlbacher

Dr. Baldwin
Dr. Jackman

Re Big Delta

Sept. 17, 1957

We have taken the following excerpts from a letter from the Rev. John C. Acker, chairman of the Outreach Committee of Yukon Presbytery (National Missions) about new developments near Fairbanks in regard to military population:

"Relative to our overall programming in the Fairbanks and Big Delta area, Elder, Acker, Dunn and myself would like to raise the question of the possibility of Dr. Baldwin's office taking a share, if not the whole responsibility, for backing in a development of the ministry of our church in the Badger Road area east of Ladd A.F.B. The trailer town has been moved off the base and now is located in the area of Badger Road in addition to a very rapid development of the area the past three years. There are enough homesteads and penal lands to provide a nucleus for a continuing work with a large volume of transient military personnel living in the area (presumably in the trailers).

"We seem to feel that Delta should be all in your department, and that Dr. Baldwin could take that money for work in a more specific service personnel area." In this connection the question has been raised several times whether some assistance can be secured from your department out of funds for work in defense areas to help with the program in the First Church of Fairbanks where so many of the military attend fellowship functions and services. Is it possible to have a person in Fairbanks who could supplement the program in the First Church and give special attention to this Badger Road area where there are so many trailers which are occupied by military personnel."

In our cabinet meeting it was suggested that you, Dr. Avery and I have a conference over this matter when such can be done. If funds can be found in the regular budget to continue the work at Big Delta and to the eastward along the highway military between Delta and Fairbanks, then the funds which you are putting into the Big Delta area could be transferred for the work in and near Fairbanks in relation to military families connected with Ladd Field.

We are making plans for Dr. Avery to go over to the interior to gather together the ministers in each of the Anchorage and Fairbanks areas along with some of their laymen to study the future and present developments of each area. Yukon Presbytery meets on October 7 to 9. We are suggesting that this conference be held prior to the meeting of the Presbytery and that the Presbytery have a fuller discussion and come forth with some recommendation or what they feel is the next thing to be done.

J. Earl Jackman

J J:gh
cc: Dr. Avery

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

OCT 9 1957

TO Dr. J. Earl Jackman
FROM Mr. Lucien H. Tribus
DATE October 8, 1957
RE: Pending Alaska Property Matters to be followed up

BIG DELTA, ALASKA (Stege Property)

You will recall that on September 18, 1957 you wrote to Mr. Maurice Johnson, Attorney at Law, Fairbanks, Alaska, with reference to Big Delta. On August 4, 1954 I sent Maurice Johnson a letter of escrow instructions regarding the purchase of the Big Delta property. A copy of this letter of August 4th is enclosed herein so that you will have full information. Mr. Johnson returned a signed copy indicating his willingness to carry out the escrow instructions. I have had no further word from him regarding this transaction although I have written him numerous times, including a letter sent by registered mail March 2, 1955. We still have no deed, counsel's certificate or any indication that we own the property, nor have we had any closing statement from the attorney who agreed to act in our behalf. Whatever his opinion may be, his failure to reply and his failure to account are, to say the least, most uncooperative. As a member of the bar, he is obligated to complete this transaction to the satisfaction of his client. This particular transaction is of primary importance as the checks have been cashed and so far as I know the transaction closed but there is nothing in my file to indicate it.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA - Hillcrest Church Manse

Paul F. Robison, Esq., Attorney, who has always been very cooperative with this office, has been attempting to collect the sum of $291.51 from Mr. R. W. Shake from whom we bought the manse property. I have written Mr. Robison several times, namely: September 3, 1957 and October 7, 1957, regarding this transaction without benefit of a reply thus far. The fact is that Mr. Shake owes the Board $291.51, a Special Assessment for Sanitary Sewer Improvements.

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA - Hillcrest Church Lot

A paving assessment was levied against this property on April 15, 1955 in the amount of $1,353.15. There was also a balance of $863.66 due on a sewer assessment, and a balance of $494.58 on a water connection charge, all of which are liens against the church lot and must be paid presumably by the Board. This is the lot for which we received a deed from the United States Government. Subsequent examination of the title indicated the existence of these liens. Mr. B. W. Boeke, City Clerk-Treasurer of the City of Anchorage, has indicated that he will invoke no penalty against the Board if we pay the principal amount due. I would appreciate your investigating this while in Alaska. I cannot understand the failure of the Government to pay these charges but have had no reply so far to my letter of protest dated September 18, 1957 which I wrote to Mr. Lowell M. Puckett, copy of which is attached hereto. I hesitate to let the taxes remain unpaid much longer; otherwise we will be charged the penalties.

Lucien H. Tribus
Legal Counsel

LHT:D
Attach.
cc: Mr. Glen V. Carson

Escrow letter

Copy

August 4, 1954

RE: BIG DELTA, ALASKA

Maurice T. Johnson, Esq.
201 Lathrop Building
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I have been authorized by the Treasurer to send you two checks, - check number one bearing No.A95881 in the amount of $2,000.00 payable to the order of Jack E. Stege, and check number two bearing No.A95868 payable to the order of the Rev. Ralph H. Weeks. These checks are sent to you in escrow subject to performance by you of the following instructions. Neither check or the proceeds thereof are to be used unless the instructions are carried out.

First, with regard to the check payable to Jack E. Stege hereinbefore referred to, same is not to be delivered to Mr. Stege until receipt by you of a duly executed deed conveying title to the following described premises, namely: Lot Nine (9) being in the Fairbanks Recording Precinct, Fourth Judicial Division, Territory of Alaska, - to the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, a New York charitable corporation with office and principal place of business at 156 Fifth Avenue, City, County and State of New York. (The full name of the Board must be set forth in the deed.) If in order to get around an existing law it is necessary to convey first to Ralph H. Weeks and then a subsequent conveyance from Mr. Weeks to the Board, the transaction will not be acceptable. The Board feels this is a method of circumventing a legal procedure and one which will not be countenanced by it.

Secondly, the deed must recite that Jack E. Stege is unmarried, if this be the case. If he is married his wife must join with him in the deed. We will require a certificate from you that Mr. Stege's conveyance to the Board conveys a fee simple title free from all encumbrances, restrictions and reversions. Most probably before you issue this certificate you will feel obligated to make a title examination, which in my opinion most certainly should be done. A duly executed bill of sale conveying title to the Board of National Missions of the personal property is required. (I note that the improvement consists of a 1-room cabin together with the contents.)

In the event that you are not able to carry out all of the instructions pertaining to the use of the aforementioned check then you are instructed to return same to this office, using the self addressed envelope provided for your convenience.

With regard to the check payable to Rev. Ralph H. Weeks, this is to be delivered to Mr. Weeks together with the accounting statement which I enclose herein and the instructions subsequent to your obtaining title to the premises in the manner hereinbefore set forth. In the event you are unable to obtain title to the premises as provided then this check also is to be returned to this office to my attention.

Maurice T. Johnson, Esq. August 4, 1954

In addition I return herewith a Contract of Purchase and Sale executed the 30th day of July, 1954 between Jack E. Stege and Ralph H. Weeks. Before proceeding to close the transaction it will be necessary to secure a written release of this contract executed by both of these parties. This release must be returned to me with the recorded deed and counsel's certificate, and this is considered a material part of these escrow instructions.

If you agree to these escrow instructions, kindly sign the enclosed copy of this letter in the lower left hand corner and return same to my office using the self addressed stamped envelope provided for your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Lucien H. Tribus
Legal Counsel

LHT:D
Enc.
cc: Dr. J. Earl Jackman
Rev. R. Rolland Armstrong

P.S. Be sure that Federal Stamps for the full consideration are placed on the deed.

Escs. a-95881
a-95868

_____
Maurice T. Johnson

Date: _____

September 18, 1957

Mr. Lowell M. Puckett, Area Administrator
United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Area 4
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Mr. Puckett:

You will recall that through your kind efforts the Board of National Missions acquired from the United States Government the following described tract of land by United States Government Patent No.1148523, recorded in the office of the District Recorder, Anchorage Precinct, Anchorage, Alaska, December 21, 1954 in Book 193, page 254:

Land within the North Addition No.6 to the Townsite of Anchorage, Alaska, described as

Tract 4 of Block 10A

according to the approved Plat of the Survey of said Townsite on file in the Bureau of Land Management, containing 29,675 square feet.

---

for which we paid the sum of $1,000. At the time the transaction closed we naturally assumed that we had acquired a clear title to the property for the reason that we were sure that the Government would pay all taxes and assessment claims and would at least deliver to us a free and good title.

You can readily imagine our consternation upon receiving a letter from the Tax Collector at Anchorage advising us that the following assessments were due and payable. I quote —

> "Our records reveal that no payments were made by your organization for the paving constructed during the latter part of 1954. It also appears thatyou have not received notices of the assessment in the amount of $1,353.15 payable in nine installments at the rate of $150.35 per year. These installments are due April 15, 1955 through 1963, with the result that the April 1955, April 1956 and April 1957 installments, each in the amount of $150.35, are past due."

It is conceivable that the Government may have paid them and that the tax authorities failed to make proper entry on their records. Therefore, just to be sure, I felt it would be well to write to you and advise you of the situation. An

Mr. Lowell M. Puckett, Area Administrator
United States Department of the Interior

September 18, 1957

early reply will be greatly appreciated since we do not wish any penalties to accrue if we have to pay these charges, which you will note amount to more than the purchase price. Had we known of the assessments, we would not have bought the property.

Sincerely yours,

Lucien M. Tribus
Legal Counsel

LMT:D
cc: Mr. Glen V. Carson

Dr. Jackman

1958

Dale

February 28, 1958

RE: BIG DELTA, ALASKA

Maurice T. Johnson, Esq.
Attorney atLaw
316 Chena Building - P.O.Box 1511
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for your letter of February 25, 1958. I also wish to express the appreciation of the Board for your cooperation in the matter of the Big Delta property. I was not aware of the requirement for filing a statement of ownership of any property that the Board acquires within 30 days after such acquisition and more than appreciate your execution of the statement of ownership and have placed the copy in the Big Delta folder. In the future I will include such instructions to Alaskan attorneys.

As soon as I receive your final statement I will be happy to authorize a check to your order.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

L.H.T.

Lucien H. Tribus
Legal Counsel

LHT:D
cc: Dr. J. Earl Jackman

Ca: Big Delta

Miss Gillespie
Dr. Jackman
Big Delta Field, The Rev. Neil Munro

May 9, 1958

Where Alaska and the Richardson Highways come together, there is a growing community called Big Delta. Five miles south of the Junction, the Army has brought a fort called Ft. Greeley, which has accommodations for 4,000 Army men and a training school for survival in the Arctic. While the fort was being built, there were a great many of the service families who had to live out in the area where ever they could find shelter, particularly those who were interested in taking their families with them. Many of these families did not have any social or religious center, so we began a work at Big Delta, which would be a combination work for civilian and service family personnel. In the earlier days the service personnel were much in the majority, and funds were secured from the Chaplains Committee of our church for the construction of a Hospitality center there for service families. These funds were matched by a similar amount from the Board of National Missions, and the center was built with the assistance of the board camp group from the States. For three years now the center has been served by Neil Munro.

The property consists of a small log chapel, the log hospitality building, and a small log house which is used for a manse. The property has been purchased by the Board of National Missions. The community itself has two lodges, two garages, a weather station, and other highway services which are needed by the people and travellers. The community is growing slowly and Mr. Munro is attempting to develop a full program of ministry to the civilians there. There are still a few service families or civilian families related to the fort living in the area, who are responding about on a normal level, to the program of the church.

Mr. Munro's ministry also includes home visitation to families along the Alaska Highway east and west of Big Delta, and the Richardson Highway to the south of Big Delta. There are many homesteading families and a few places where there are several families together. One of these later communities is called Saltha River. Mr. Munro goes regularly for leadership in a church school or Bible study, and occasional preaching services. Outside of Tok, his ministry might well be considered similar to that of a Sunday School Missionary who gives a full ministry to families and small groups of people in areas of scattered population. Big Delta is approximately 90 miles east of the city of Fairbanks, and Mr. Munro's ministry covers up to 50 miles in the direction of Fairbanks. There are not large numbers of people involved, but it is a frontier mission with a great variety of services which are needed. I have had a contact with it since its conception, and more recently have seen some great spiritual development in some of the people who have gathered there. The Munros are due for furlough beginning Sept. 1, for the rest of this year, and have chosen to return there in an attempt to develop a further spiritual growth among the people and in the community.

J. Earl Jackman

JEJ:EW

10/14/58 CC to Dr. J. in Seattle & Ketchikan - PK
(over for NMBR monies available) Facts

OCT 14 1958

Big Delta Presbyterian Church
Delta Junction, Alaska
October 10, 1958

Dr J. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
Newy York, N.Y.

Dear Dr Jackman,

As you know Neil and Kerry are on vacation in the states and Neil was unable to get this letter off to you prior to his departure so he turned the writeing over to me. Since I have been keeping the books for the Church I had most of the data anyway so I hope this letter and the enclosed receipts will suffice for the purpose at hand. The Church treasury is practically down to zero and with the cold months coming on it looks like we will have to ask for the money we have spent on the Manse addition and basement. As a matter of fact, the sooner we receive the money the quicker we can pay some of the bills which are already piling up.

The Manse addition and basement are not yet completely finished but most of the remaining work amounts to volunteer labor. Also we are going to have to crib up the walls in the basement as they are coming in. It is a shame they were not secured well in the first place. No spikes in some places and many splices all in the same area.

*(covers Pd chgd DS 71680. 10/24/58)

So far we have spent 102.00 dollars for cement on the basement and the receipts for this are enclosed. Believe we were allotted 500 dollars for this job however there will be more expense on this with the cribbing of the walls and some more cementing.

As for the addition on to the Manse we have spent 723.67 dollars so far and those receipts are enclosed. It is believed we were to be allotted 400 dollars for the Manse addition. This would leave the Church absorbing the balance of 323.67 dollars and it appears we may be able to do it if our budget holds out and we receive the money requested in this letter.

Items for the Manse bedroom addition are as follows:

Date	Agency	Items	Amount
6/18/58	Hall Electric Co	Electrical Supplies	$ 25.45
6/22	Diehl's Variety	Electrical Supplies	4.00
6/28	Alaska Concrete	Concrete Blocks & Cement	69.30
7/8	Sam Kelly	Nails	1.40
7/25	Floyd Newby	Building Materials	78.45
7/25	Floyd Newby	Roofing Material	9.75
7/26	Mark Marchus	Windows	48.00
7/12	Sam Kelly	Nails	1.50
7/12	Art's Trading	Paint & Supplies	3.85
7/31	Art's Trading	Electrical Supplies	1.94
7/31	Mark Marchus	Electrical Parts	12.00
8/1	Art's Trading	Wiring	19.00
8/6	Art's Trading	Electrical Fittings	1.30
8/6	Floyd Newby	Celotex, Doors & Insulation	66.15
8/6	Art's Trading	Wiring	19.50
8/7	Floyd Newby	Door	16.00
8/7	Nilsson Builders	Visqueen & Plywood	46.30
7/29	Independent Lumber	Lumber	7.36
8/17	Nilsson Builders	Visqueen	6.03
7/12	Dean Cummings	Lumber	201.41
8/19	Dean Cummings	Lumber	13.00
8/30	Sam Kelly	Caulking Compound	5.75
8/2	Independent Lumber	Lumber and Door Locks	66.23
		TOTAL	723.67

400. - NMBR - 45 11 346
Left to Dean Church 323.67
Church would like 10/24/58

10/14/58 - We have the following NMBR items or balances left as of

Big Delta - move house to join house.....$400.
Manse ½ general repairs, roof, etc. ..$500.
Manse - concrete floor basement...$500. (on list as Hospitalit
Recreation hall - general repair.....$100. Center but shou
be B.B.)

Chapel - heating alterations.....$75.-

ground landscaping.....$300.

Please return one copy of what to charge items listed on other side
re: above balances.

FK

Bills sent Treasury: (Cement for manse basement)

2/12/58	Independent Lumber Inc.	#A69012	$18.75
3/18	" " "	#A69651	27.50
4/22	" " "	#A74872	26.25
6/25	Alaska Concrete Products Co.	#14238	18.25
7/16	Independent Lumber Inc.	#A73504	11.25
		Total.....	$102.00

10/24 charged NMBR
OSM 680
FK

The cement for the basement is not itemized as it is all for the same item and the attached receipts fully explain the money spent.

I sincerely hope that this method of submission will meet with your approval, and that this letter reaches your office before your departure to Alaska. Bert and Mabel suggested I get this off so you may have an opportunity to act on it before you come north,.

Bert and I went to Presbytery together at Tok last Tuesday. Seems hard to believe Vic will be leaving us. He will be greatly missed I am sure. Neil writes me that he misses Alaska already and especially the " good old home folks at Big Delta". Good deal I say for it is always nice to see somebody want to come back to Alaska.

Serving Christ has become much more meaningful to my wife and I since taking a part in the Sunday School work. The challenge is right before us and we pray that God will lead us where he wants us. For the Church the most important things seems to be to get more people doing different jobs and then more individuals will experience spiritual growth and togetherness in His Kingdom.

Hope you have a pleasant trip to Alaska and that we get the opportunity to at least say " hello ".

Sincerely yours,

Jack Hammel

ac
Big Delta Ch Fdn.

December 11, 1958

Mr. Jack Hummel
Delta Junction
Alaska

Dear Jack:

Recently you have received from our office a statement of the relationships between the local churches and the Board of National Missions in the support of the missionary pastor who is on the field. It gives a breakdown of what is involved in the support of our people and the part which we hope each individual church can and will take in it. We know that many of the churches, such as Big Delta, do not have enough people in them to take over such responsibilities in full, but we know that your people will be conscientious in an effort to do what you are able to do financially.

The thing which we are trying to clear now for 1959 is the amount of local support on which we can count toward the support of Neil. We hope that you may be able to participate in the travel expense of their family back to the field, but we are more definitely concerned with the amount to be paid each month. Since Neil was under a different department last year, we are not sure that we have the accurate figures on what happened, but we think it is a fact that the church was paying $100. a month towards his salary and supplying the heat and utilities for the manse. In return it was our impression that he had a $25. a month housing allowance which he was turning into the Treasury there to help pay for heat and utilities.

For 1959 Neil will have a basic salary of $4000 plus an adjustment for the cost of living in the interior of $1400 plus $300 for length of service, which makes a total of $5700. In addition to this there is to be the furnished manse but not heat or utilities. Heat and utilities are the responsibility in all fields for the missionary pastor, but if the local church takes the responsibility of these, we should put a modest valuation on them and consider that this valuation is a contribution from the local group toward the total cash salary and should be added to what they pay in cash for the support. On the basis of last year's figures, this would mean that the local church would be paying $1200 a year plus a modest valuation for heat and utilities as their part of the support, and the Board of National Missions would pay the difference between that and $5700 directly to Neil. We have written to Neil about this but do not know whether he can supply these figures. It is necessary for us to have them as near the 15th of December as possible, so that we can get our dockets made up and filed in the Treasury Department here to be sure that salaries will be paid on time for January. If we get figures from you and Neil which may be different, we will try to reconcile them and work this out as best we can. The church can continue to pay the $1200 plus the provisions

of heat and utilities upon which we will put a reasonable value, or the church can put a value upon the heat and utilities and pay this in cash in addition to the $1200 for the coming year.

Best regards to you. We trust that the work is going forward during Neil's absence under the leadership of Mr. Bingle.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ/fb
cc: Rev. Neil Munro
Rev. Brian Cleworth

Big Delta
Urban

December 7, 1960

The Rev. Victor C. Urban
536 Eighth Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Vic:

As I read your report for the month of November at Big Delta, it is evident that some attention needs to be given to assistance to the Church to care for the financial responsibility for your week-end visits to Delta. In my conference with you in November, it seemed reasonable that you should have $40.00 a week-end for transportation and remuneration for your services. You have indicated that the Church had paid their part of the salary for Neil Munro for the month of October so could not reimburse you for your week-end there, and their payment of $150.00 for the month of November was $10.00 short of the recognized amount of $40.00 a week-end. We are asking the Treasury Department for a check for $50.00 as travel which will cover these necessities for the last of October and the month of November.

During my visit with you, you indicated the people there wanted to get going on additional renovation and completion of buildings. As we pointed in the conference, money is available for nearly all of the things which they have on the list. However, any basic moving of the furnace or other major type of construction ought to be cleared with Mr. Glen Carson here before it is initiated. He is responsible for the properties to the Board and should be consulted in advance about major changes.

Best regards to all the family. We appreciate your willingness to help serve during the vacancy at Delta. We hope to get a report soon on the action of the National Missions Committee and the Presbytery toward a permanent plan for the field.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Work in Alaska

JEJ:bh
cc: Miss Alice Green
The Rev. Wm. Pritchard

DEC 16 1960

Pulpit Committee
Mr. S.R.Buck Chairman
Box 905
Delta Junction, Alaska

Dr. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
New York, New York.

Dear Dr. Jackman,

We assume that you have been advised of the vacant pulpit existing at the Big Delta Presbyterian church, and take this opportunity as the committee to seek the benefit of your assistance.

This committee has been in contact with ministerial relations of Presbytery, and have notified the Columbus, Ohio office regarding this matter.

Knowing of your familiarity with our church and condition here at Delta, we would sincerely appreciate your recommendations for Ministers whom you would consider qualified and interested in serving in this area.

The committee feels that we are in need of a family man with a progressive attitude toward personal contacts. It is imperative that this vacancy be filled as soon as possible since our church is at a crucial point in spiritual growth.

Your prayerful consideration in this matter will be sincerely appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Stanley R. Buck
Stanley R. Buck Chmn.

Constance L. Campbell
Constance L. Campbell

A. A. Mc Gilvray (Absent)

Charles F. Campbell
Charles F. Campbell

Helen K. Brant
Helen K. Brant

John H. Hummel
John H. Hummel

cc/ J. Heckel
W. Pritchard
V. Urban
C. Polhemus

Delta Junction

December 22, 1960

Mr. B. R. Buck
Box 905
Delta Junction, Alaska

Dear Mr. Buck:

We have received the communication from the Pulpit Committee of the Delta Church asking our assistance in finding a replacement for the Rev. Neil Munro on your field. We want to assure you that it is our desire to lend every assistance possible to secure a missionary-pastor at an early date so that the program of the Church and the area can go forward at a high spiritual level.

Recently, in conference in Seattle, Mr. Meckel for the Ministerial Relations Committee, Miss Green for the National Missions Committee, Mr. Pritchard as Assistant Secretary and General Presbyter and I had a conference about personnel needs in Alaska. The Delta situation was discussed, and we recognized that the way is now clear for all of us to go ahead. There was some question whether Delta should be joined with Tok as one large highway parish with one energetic young minister to take full responsibility. The Presbytery has made a decision in response to the request of both areas that they be separate fields and there be separate men to cover them. Since this has been cleared, we now look forward to a replacement for Delta area full-time.

We are searching our records here with an effort to find the right man with family for Delta and surrounding territory. One never knows from what source or through what channel we are lead to the right man for a field. We know that a replacement is needed as soon as possible for permanent residence. However, if a permanent replacement should not be found by the month of March, it would appear that we might turn to the seminaries as a possible source for settlement on the field in June.

During a recent visit to San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, California, I interviewed a very fine young man who was well recommended by the Field Director of Student Service who expressed a definite interest in Delta. I explained to him the possibilities of growth within the next five years, and he thought this would be a thrilling experience to take the field as it is now, lay the foundations for a broader work, and then grow with it as the new development comes. We are starting him on his necessary personnel papers to get them completed soon without any definite assignment or place of service. If a replacement can be found now, that would be better for the field; but if no replacement is found in the immediate future, then this young man could be considered. We will proceed on this and keep you informed about any developments as they may come.

Best regards to all of your Committee and your people.

Sincerely,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Dept. of Home in Alaska

JEJ:hh
cc: Rev. Pritchard, Rev. Meckel
Miss Green, Dr. Polhemus

ae

Beg Delta Ch

January 27, 1961

re: Big Delta Presby. Church

CC: Miss Alice S. Green
The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth
The Rev. Joseph E. Heckel
The Rev. Wm. M. Pritchard, Jr.

Mr. Stanley Buck, Chairman
Pulpit Committee
Box 905
Delta Junction, Alaska

Dear Mr. Buck:

We have received your letter of January 21 giving us the decision of the Pulpit Committee in listing three choices for a missionary-pastor for Delta. We take it for granted that you received the biographies from Mr. Hamilton's office in Columbus and it was from these biographies that you chose these three names.

I called the Rev. John Batiste Quick by telephone and found that he is under consideration by our Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations for service in Africa. He would be interested in Alaska if he does not go to Africa, but we both agreed that he should wait for the answer on Africa before he considered Alaska.

Your second choice is the Rev. Orville Lanham of White Sulpher Springs, Montana. Mr. Lanham is serving this church one-half time and is supposed to be serving the county one-half time. He is providing a regular ministry to one small rural community in the county but the r st of the county work is not getting done. I have a high regard for him, but without entering into the service and family situation, I could not conscientiously recommend him to fulfill the needs of Delta.

The Rev. William Edwin Chapman of Omaha, Nebraska is serving a church of 114 members. His name was familiar and I turned to our Personnel Office to see if we had any papers on him. He served on a work team one summer in Anchorage and Palmer while he was in Wooster College. We do not have any evaluation in his folder on that service. I have had no contact with him in the last four years. On the basis of our knowledge of him while he was in college, I question whether he would be the person you would want to do the kind of a job which is needed in the Delta area. On the other hand, through these years of further preparation and two years' experience in the pastorate, it is possible that he has grown sufficiently to perfrom your ministry. I have tried to get him by telephone but have been unable to reach him. I'll keep on trying.

This is not a very encouraging report on the names which you have sent. However, I visited Louisville Theological Seminary on the seventeenth of this month. There came to see me a hudy, young fellow with good humor who wants to serve in Alaska. He spent two summers in Chugiak living at the

Moose Horn. He has a pilot's license, is enthusiastic about returning to Alaska, and is enthusiastic about the type of ministry which we call Sunday School Missions and Mobile Ministries. The Field Director of the Seminary speaks very highly of him. He is married and, I believe, their first child is due July 31. His wife is a nurse. He does all of his own automobile repairs and has had experience inconstruction work. He is a friendly person, and, in my judgement, the best prospect we have come across for Delta. "Nick", as he is called, came back to see me the second time about Delta. He is living in Mowrystown, Ohio where he is acting as student-pastor of a rural church. He has a problem about enough credits in May at the Seminary to satisfy the Seminary and his Presbytery. He is working on that now to see if he can finish by June 1. We will hear from him soon. We have had a letter today that he and his wife have discussed this matter and are interesting in coming to Delta pending other information.

We are interested in having a man at Delta as soon as possible. However, at this date, I doubt if we can find someone to move to the field before the first of April. If Nick turns out to be the right person, my advice to you would be to wait for him. We will give further information as we may have it.

Regards to all of you!

Sincerely,

JEJ:FK J. Earl Jackman

CC: Miss Alice S. Green
The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth
The Rev. Joseph E. Heckel
The Rev. William M. Pritchard, Jr.

JAN 24 1961

see 1/19/61 ltr from Stoke re Buck. [illegible] to Buck. [illegible] 1/24/61

Pulpit Committee
Mr. S.P. Buck Chariman
Box 905
Delta Junction Alaska
Jan 21 1961

Dr. Earl Jackman
Board of National Missions
New York, New York.

Dear Dr. Jackman

After very careful consideration and Prayer the Pulpit committee of the Big Delta Presbyterian Church Has Made the following choices First choice The Rev. John Batiste Quick, 1522 Clifton Avenue, Columbus 3, Ohio. Second Choice the Rev. Orivlle Eugene Lanham Box 236 White Sulphur Springs, Montana The third Choice The Rev. William Edwin Chapman 1623 12th St Carter Lake, Omaha 10, Nebraska

This Committee Will send a letter to the Rev. Quick as soon as possable and find out if he would be interested in this church. So as to present our findings to the Congergation

V. Urban is doing a good job here, But we should have a Minister on the field as soon as possable , So this committee will go ahead as fast as possable
Will sed you and Joe Heckel a coppy of each action taken.

2774.

Very truly yours

The Pulpit Committee of the
Big Delta Presbterian Church
Delta Junct Alaska

Helen Brandt
Charles and Constance Campbell
J.H. Hummel
Stanley P. Buck
Stanley Buck, Chairman

Bethany Church, Columbus
Quick 326-16-2 19,900, #1958.
3 children.
CL 3-6670

Lanham, orville
White Sulphur Springs, mont

Wm E. Chapman, Omaha 10, Nebr.
1623 N 12th St.
1018
114-11-7 #5797 #479.
Tel. 347-5583

Attachment to John B. Q.

CONFIDENTIAL

January 27, 1961

To: The Rev. Brian H. Cleworth
Miss Alice S. Green
The Rev. Joseph E. Heckel
The Rev. William M. Pritchard

Dear Friends:

The minister, John B. Quick, whom Delta has placed at the top of their list, and to whom they are writing, is a negro. He is a good mab, but I doubt if they know he is a negro. If knowing this, they still want him - O.K. - but I feel they should know it.

By action of the Assembly, the Department of Ministerial Relations is not permitted to include this information specifically and I could be taken to task for revealing it. Therefore, you should not reveal that I have told you. This is typical of the problem which Alaska will have when the work is transferred.

P.S. on Cleworth's and Pritchard's copies only:

John Park Lee has been elected as head of the General Dept. of Public Relations and Interpretation (Promotion) as of February 1, 1961, so he probably will not be coming up about Hospitality House.